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# CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY USSR (Baltic) REPORT NO.  25X1

SUBJECT Soviet Naval Vessels in the Baltic Sea DATE DISTR. 4 October 1954

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1. At 0535 hours on 3 July 1953, while a wind was blowing with a force of six to eight from the northwest, the sea was a force of four to six, and visibility was varying; two Soviet warships were sighted 2.5 nautical miles off to port of informant's vessel in the approximate position of N 59-43, E 21-08 (see sketch on page 2). They were marked  and proceeded in line formation about 120 meters apart, heading on a true course of 330° at a speed of about 18 knots. They turned to starboard about eight minutes later in execution of a flag signal made by the lead ship and, shortly afterwards, disappeared on their new course of about 82° true. They listed heavily when changing course. The four-flag signal of the lead ship could not be made out because of the stiff breeze. The second vessel was seen making weak flash signals from the port arm of its signal yard. About a minute later when the lead vessel hoisted two flags, the two vessels turned to starboard. At the same time informant saw on his starboard quarter a Swedish revenue vessel, which was a large seagoing motor boat. It was steering on a true course of 90°. After the two Soviet vessels had turned away, it reversed its course and proceeded toward the coast.

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2. Soviet vessels  were apparently sister ships. Each vessel had two stacks and a sleek, streamlined, and comparatively low-sided hull. There was a break in the deck just aft of the forward stack. The ships had hawseholes on their raked bows and a gun behind a protective shield on their foredecks with a breakwater just forward. Each ship had a box-shaped bridge with a canvas-covered range finder and a thin mast at the after edge of the bridge with a searchlight platform at mid-height. The raked stacks were a little higher than the bridge and each ship had two multiple torpedo mounts, one between the two stacks and the other aft of the second stack. There were two superimposed guns on the fantail mounted behind protective shields on the deck.

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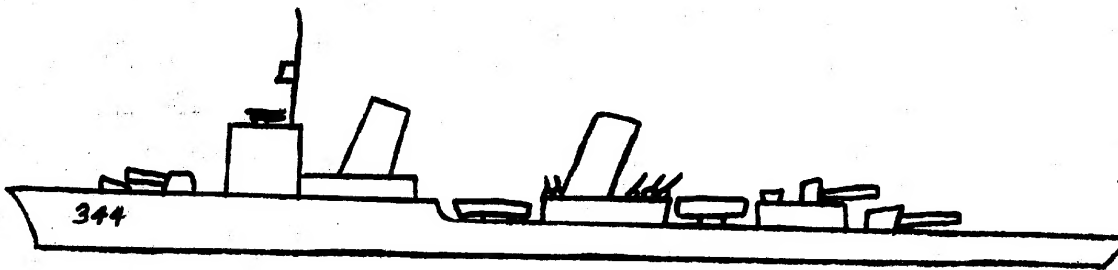
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Sketch of Soviet Naval Vessel



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